Borough of Tamworth

ANNUAL REPORTS

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and the

Senior Public Health Inspector

For the Year Ended 31st December, 1958.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT
9, LADY BANK
TAMWORTH.

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PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Alderman F. W. Morgan, B.E.M., Chairman.

Councillor J. T. Betteridge, Vice-Chairman.

Alderman H. V. Powell	Alderman R. M. Turner
Councillor F. A. Allsopp	Councillor E. Collins
,, E. L. Edkins	,, Mrs. N. French
,, V. T. Golden	,, F. A. Jewsbury
,, K. A. Mugleston (Mayor)	,, M. Sutton

Medical Officer of Health:

A. Farnill Morgan, M.B., B.S., L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., D.P.H.

Senior Public Health Inspector:

H. Birchwood, C.S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I.,

Cert. Insp. of Meat and Foods.

Additional Public Health Inspector:

G. E. Webb, C.S.I.B.

Health Visitors and School Nurses:

Miss E. M. E. Hagstrom, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

Mrs. W. Clements, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS
OF THE BOROUGH OF TAMWORTH

Mr. Mayor, Mrs. French and Gentlemen.

I beg to submit my report on the state of the Public Health in the Borough of Tamworth for the year 1958.

The Birth Rate was 13.7 and the Death Rate 13.2. No deaths were attributable to childbirth.

The low Infant Mortality Rate of 21.8 reflected a high standard of care on the part of General Medical Practitioners and Health Visitors in the Borough.

An outbreak of Measles affecting 146 children occurred during the year but school closure did not become necessary.

No cases of Poliomyelitis were notified.

Clearance Areas comprising 68 unfit houses were confirmed during the year.

I would again thank members and officials of the Council for their continued help and co-operation and will now proceed with my Report.

A. FARNILL MORGAN,
Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY FOR THE YEAR 1958

Area in Acres	2,678
Registrar General's estimate of resident population ...	13,370
(Census, 1951)	12,889
(Census, 1931)	11,711
(Census, 1921)	8,032
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1957) according to Rate Books	4,236
Number of Inhabited Houses (Census, 1951)	3,688
Number of Inhabited Houses (Census, 1931)	2,785
Persons per Acre	4.9
Rateable Value—December, 1958	£171,144
Product of 1d. Rate—December, 1958	£695

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births—

	Total.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate ...	176	88	88
Illegitimate ...	7	4	3
	183	92	91

Birth Rate 13.7.

Still Births—

	Total.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate ...	8	8	—
Illegitimate ...	—	—	—
	8	8	—

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Population 6

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 live and still births ... 41.8

Deaths from all Causes

	Total.	Male.	Female.
	177	100	77

Death Rate per 1,000 Population 13.2

Deaths of Infants under One Year of Age

	Total.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate ...	3	2	1
Illegitimate ...	1	—	1
	4	2	2

Deaths of Infants under Four Weeks of Age

	Total.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate ...	3	2	1
Illegitimate ...	—	—	—
	3	2	1

Death Rate of Infants under One Year of Age

All Infants per 1,000 live births 21.8

Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births 17.0

CAUSES OF DEATH

	Male.	Female.
Tuberculosis, respiratory	—	—
Tuberculosis, other	—	—
Syphilitic disease	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—
Meningococcal infections	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—
Measles	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	1	—
Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	3	2
Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	3	—
Malignant Neoplasm, breast	—	3
Malignant Neoplasm, uterus	—	—
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	5	9
Leukæmia, aleukæmia	1	—
Diabetes	1	—
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	7	13
Coronary disease, angina	19	5
Hypertension with heart disease ...	—	—
Other heart disease	11	11
Other circulatory disease	10	13
Influenza	—	1
Pneumonia	4	6
Bronchitis	5	2
Other diseases of respiratory system ...	—	—
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	3	—
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhœa ...	—	—
Nephritis and nephrosis	3	—
Hyperplasia of prostate	3	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	1
Congenital malformations	1	—
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	12	9
Motor vehicle accidents	5	—
All other accidents	1	2
Suicide	2	—
Homicide and operations of war ...	—	—
Totals, all causes ...	100	77

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following table shows the number of cases notified together with the age groups.

INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR 1958.

Disease	Total cases at all ages	Total Cases Notified												Total Deaths	Cases admitted to Hospital
		Under 1 year	1 and under 2	2 and under 3	3 and under 4	4 and under 5	5 and under 10	10 and under 15	15 and under 20	20 and under 35	35 and under 45	45 and under 60	60 and over		
Smallpox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ...	7	...	...	1	...	...	4	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia ...	8	...	...	2	...	...	1	..	...	...	...	3	2	..	...
Erysipelas ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	..	...	...
Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ...	29	1	3	4	4	...	17	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ...	146	4	12	21	19	17	69	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningococcal Infection	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...
Food Poisoning ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	191	5	15	28	23	17	91	6	—	—	—	4	2	—	—

FOOD POISONING

Food Poisoning Notifications (corrected) returned to R.G.

1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
—	—	—	—

Total, —

Outbreaks due to Identified Agents:

Total outbreaks, Nil. Total Cases, Nil.

Outbreaks of Undiscovered Cause:

Total outbreaks, Nil. Total Cases, Nil.

Single Cases:

Agent identified, Nil. Unknown causes, Nil. Total, Nil.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Primary injections:		**Boosters: (all ages)**
Under 5	... 119	11
5 to 14	... 62	

Number of children immunised as at 31st December, 1958.

Last course of injections given	Under 1 year	5 to 14
A. Since 1953	15	1,097
B. 1953 or earlier	—	1,196

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality during 1958.

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-15	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
15-25	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25-35	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
35-45	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
45-55	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55-65	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	1	5	1	—	—	—	—	—
	6		1		—		—	

HOUSING

The following table gives details of the Council's post-war housing programmes.

	Fazeley Road		Amington Road		Gillway		Bolehall Estate		Lichfield Street		Bolebridge Street	
	No. of Dwellings Allocated	No. of Dwellings Completed	No. of Dwellings Allocated	No. of Dwellings Completed	No. of Dwellings Allocated	No. of Dwellings Completed	No. of Dwellings Allocated	No. of Dwellings Completed	No. of Dwellings Allocated	No. of Dwellings Completed	No. of Flats Allocated	No. of Flats Completed
1947	66	42	52	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1948	40	24	52	26	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1949	60	2	—	78	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1950	84	76	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1951	—	106	—	—	146	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1952	—	—	—	—	156	114	—	—	—	—	—	—
1953	—	—	—	—	102	192	—	—	—	—	—	—
1954	—	—	—	—	100	92	—	—	—	—	—	—
1955	—	—	—	—	—	86	—	—	—	—	—	—
1956	6	6	—	—	21	30	12	—	—	—	—	—
1957	—	—	—	—	—	11	—	—	—	—	—	—
1958	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	68	—	76	—
	256	256	104	104	525	525	12	12	68	—	76	—

Housing Applications:

List at 1st January, 1958—

	Householders.	Lodgers.	Total.
Applicants residing in the Borough	165	355	520
Applicants residing outside Borough	190	270	460
	355	625	980

List at 31st December, 1958—

Applicants residing in the Borough	188	275	463
Applicants residing outside Borough	205	362	567
	393	637	1,030

HOSPITALS

All hospitals in the Borough are included in the Lichfield, Sutton Coldfield and Tamworth Group under the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board and are as follows :—

Tamworth General Hospital.

St. Editha's Hospital.

Tamworth Isolation Hospital.

MATERNITY ACCOMMODATION

No maternity accommodation is provided at the Hospitals in the Borough.

CLINIC AND TREATMENT CENTRES

These are under the County Council (except Tuberculosis and Orthopædic Clinics) since the 5th July, 1948.

Infant Welfare Clinics are held twice weekly.

A School Clinic is held weekly.

An Ante-Natal Clinic is held weekly.

Eye Clinics are held fortnightly.

Dental Clinics are held weekly for expectant and nursing mothers, toddlers and school children.

An Orthopædic Clinic is held weekly at the College Lane Schools.

A Chest Clinic is held at St. Editha's Hospital.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

An ambulance is stationed at Tamworth and is available during the daytime. The Lichfield ambulance is available at all other times.

WATER SUPPLY

Source of Supply.—Well and bore hole at Hopwas Pumping Station. South Staffordshire Waterworks Company.

Gallons Pumped during 1958. — 196,461,000 Gallons. Received from South Staffordshire Waterworks Company, 102,622,000.

Well.—Highest, 4ft. 8in.; Lowest, 1ft.

Treatment Before Distribution.—The supply is chlorinated en route to the high level reservoir at Hopwas, and the bulk supply from the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company is chlorinated at source.

All dwelling houses in the Borough have a piped supply, either direct into the house or by means of standpipes.

Approximate number of houses supplied:—

(a) Direct to houses		Population
4,222	... ...	13,294
(b) By means of Standpipes		
24	... ...	76

Rainfall.—The Rainfall for the year 1958 was 30.68in.

With the assistance of the bulk supply from the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company, it was possible to give a continuous supply to all consumers throughout the year, at pressures ranging from 30lbs. to 80lbs.

During the year, 10 samples of water have been obtained by the Health Department from domestic supplies in various parts of the Borough and submitted for bacteriological and chemical examination.

The results were satisfactory. The water is not plumbo solvent. There is a fairly high degree of hardness.

OPEN-AIR SWIMMING BATHS

Routine samples were taken during the summer months when the baths were open. Bacteriological analyses were all satisfactory. "Break-point" chlorination was used.

These baths are a very valuable health asset to the Borough and are well patronised.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

During the year progress was made in dealing with a number of houses considered unfit for habitation and after detailed inspections representations to the Committee were made and dealt with as follows:—

67 houses included in 3 Clearance Areas.

3 houses under Section 17, Housing Act, 1957.

The confirmation of the Clearance Orders had not been received at the end of the year but the total of 70 houses is the highest the Council have dealt with in one year.

Two houses previously dealt with under Section 17 of the Housing Act were demolished during the year.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

The number of types of closet accommodation existing at the end of the year is as follows—

No. of Houses	No. of Privies	No. of Pails	No. of Water Closets	Per cent. Dry	Per cent. Water Closets
4,226	6	34	4,963	0.86	99.14

The privy and pail type of closet are in the rural parts of the Borough where no sewer is available.

There are approximately 20 premises served by a system of drainage discharging to cesspools.

INSPECTIONS

The following statement shows the number of visits and inspections to various classes of premises.

Visits and Inspections	Number
Inspection of drains of old property	24
Other inspections of existing property	314
To work in progress	376
,, test drains and sanitary fittings	28
,, premises re infectious diseases	14
,, tuberculous cases	5
,, respecting disinfection	12
,, cowsheds, dairies and milkshops	36
,, bakehouses	34
,, slaughterhouses	416
,, manure steads	6
,, factories	36
,, outworkers' premises	4
,, shops re Shops Acts	76
,, ,, re Meat Regulations	48
,, food inspection	310
,, offensive trades	4
Miscellaneous visits	106
Housing Acts	210
Caravans	56
Rodent Control	132
	2,247

COMPLAINTS

Nature of Complaint	Number Received
Choked passage drain	8
,, slopstone waste pipe	10
,, water closet	56
,, yard drain	10
Defective water closet basin	8
,, dust bin	98
,, wall and ceiling plaster	36
,, house roof	54
,, windows	28
,, kitchen sink	10
,, cooking range	32
,, floors	12
,, doors and frames	14
,, wash-houses and washing coppers ..	15
,, yard surface	2
,, walls	30
,, gutters	102
,, drains	6
Dampness of house	72
Accumulation of refuse	3
Dirty house	4
General insanitary conditions	2
House infested with vermin	6
Nuisance from keeping animals	3
Accumulation of manure	4
Rat infested premises	82
Emission of smoke	18
Miscellaneous	53
	778

To secure the abatement of these defective conditions, 136 informal notices were served.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 & 1948.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Number of Written notices	Number of Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	14	14	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	92	22	5	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
Total	106	36	5	—

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of Cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	5	5	—	5	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Total	5	5	—	5	—

Four persons were returned as Outworkers under the Act, and these were engaged on wearing apparel. Visits were made and in each case the home conditions were considered suitable.

THE RENT ACT, 1957

This Act came into operation on the 6th July, 1957.

The provisions allow for the increase, within limits, of rents of houses remaining in control and machinery for dealing with repairs.

After a notice of increase in rent has been served, the tenant may serve a notice on his landlord specifying the defects which he thinks should be remedied. The landlord has six weeks in which to do the work or give an undertaking that the work will be done. If he does neither of these things the tenant may apply to the local authority for a certificate of disrepair in relation to the defects specified in his notice to the landlord.

Period 1st January to 31st December, 1958

1. Number of applications for certificates ...	21
2. Number of decisions not to issue certificates ...	—
3. Number of decisions to issue certificates:	
(a) in respect of some but not all defects ...	17
(b) in respect of all defects	4
4. Number of undertakings given by landlords	13
5. Number of undertakings refused by Local Authority	—
6. Number of certificates issued	5

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955.

There are twenty-three butchers' shops, six bakehouses and thirty-four food preparing premises in the Borough.

Routine visits have been made during the year and together with the requirements of the above Regulations and in the face of everyday competitive trading, purveyors of foodstuffs are gradually improving their premises.

DAIRY FARMS, DAIRIES, RETAIL PURVEYORS OF MILK

Cowkeepers	10
Dairies	4
Retail Purveyors	12

The Borough of Tamworth is included in a Specified Area and all dairymen who retail milk in the Borough must sell milk under special designation. The special designations authorised to be sold are "Pasteurised." "Sterilised" and "Tuberculin Tested."

All retailers obtain their supplies so treated and bottled from wholesalers outside the Borough. The one dairy pasteurising milk gave up the licence.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

An employee of the Council is trained and engaged in part-time rodent control work.

One hundred and thirty two inspections were made and eighty-two premises were found to be infested. The facilities provided by the Council were made available to the owners or occupiers and the infestations were successfully treated by pre-baiting and poisoning.

Half-yearly treatment of the sewers and periodical treatment of the Council's refuse disposal tip has been carried out.

SANITARY SUPERVISION OF PLACES OF AMUSEMENT

The cinemas and other places of entertainment have been periodically inspected with regard to the sanitary accommodation.

The managements have been found anxious to maintain the conveniences in a satisfactory condition, and any defects found have at once been remedied.

PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS, 1924-1935

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933-1958.

There are six licensed slaughterhouses in the Borough and the following animals have been killed:—

	Cattle.	Calves.	Sheep.	Pigs.
1957	... 1,662	70	5,409	4,980
1958	... 1,248	32	3,530	3,689

During routine inspection, three cases of localised Cysticercus Bovis were found. The organs were condemned and the carcases subjected to refrigeration in accordance with the recommendations.

The total number of animals slaughtered shows a reduction on last year. One butcher, previously carrying on a wholesale trade, gave up this side of his business.

In consequence of which Saturday and Sunday inspections have not been necessary.

Carcases Slaughtered and Examined

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Cow/ Heifers	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
1957 Number killed	605	128	929	70	5409	4980
1958 Number killed	788	87	373	32	3530	3689
Number Inspected ...	788	87	373	32	3530	3689
Diseases except Tuberculosis						
Whole carcases condemned ...	—	—	—	—	5	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	91	18	58	—	52	62
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ...	11.5	20.7	15.5	—	1.6	1.7
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcases condemned ...	1	1	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	26	18	21	—	—	42
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	3.4	21.8	5.6	—	—	1.1
Cysticercus Bovis						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	2	1	—	—	—	—
Submitted to refrigeration	2	1	—	—	—	—
Generalised & totally condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE SHOWING CARCASES CONDEMNED AND DISEASED CONDITIONS.

Cattle	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Disease	Weight in lbs.
2				Generalised Tuberculosis ...	1,180
1 part carcase				Tuberculosis	332
		1		Emaciation	40
			1	Swine Erysipelas	196
		4		Multiple Injuries	165
		1 part carcase		Injury	18
	1			Fevered	35
2 Carcases 1 1 Part Carcase		5 Carcases 1 1 Part Carcase			1,966

Organs Condemned	Weight in lbs.
Cattle	3,457
Calves	—
Sheep	121
Pigs	700
	4,278
Whole and part carcases	1,966
Other Foods	591
Total amount condemned	6,835

= 3 tons. 1 cwt. 3 lbs.

I am, gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

H. BIRCHWOOD,

Senior Public Health Inspector.